

Extracorporeal shockwave therapy for chronic skin ulcers in diabetics patients

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Device and producing company:

Reflectron -HMT

Introduction:

The aim of this study was to evaluate the efficacy and safety of extra- corporeal shock wave therapy for the treatment of chronic skin ulcers in diabetes type II patients.

Methods:

The study consisted of diabetic patients with chronic skin ulcers at their extremities, in lower limbs. The ulcers had existed for a minimum of 3 months and were categorized as chronic disease; and they had been resistant to conservative therapy for at least 3 months. This study included 20 patients, 11 male and 9 female, age 40 and older. In October 2005, we began to treat some patients with chronic skin lesions using a Reflectron (HMT) device with a special therapy head. Treatments were applied in intervals of 2 weeks and different numbers of pulses were used according to the size of the wound. All patients were treated without anesthesia, and for dressing only physiologic serum was used to clean the wound after shock wave treatment.

Results:

This study showed promising results with complete or partial healing of the wound in most of the patients. Treatment was safe and well tolerated. Prospective randomized trials have to be performed to show the safety, efficacy and stability of the results of shockwave therapy for treating chronic skin ulcers in diabetic patients.

Discussion:

In this study we found that ESWT is a safe and well tolerated method of treatment for chronic diabetic skin ulcers. In 20 patients with chronic diabetic skin ulcers in lowers extremities more than 50% experienced completed healing and others experienced improvement.

Conclusion:

In this study we found that ESWT is a safe and well tolerated method of treatment for chronic diabetic skin ulcers. In 20 patients with chronic diabetic skin ulcers in lowers extremities more than 50% experienced completed healing and others experienced improvement.